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August 31, 1900

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tion cards" issued by the medical officer of the Louisiana State board of health.

Respectfully,

WM. H. CARSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Fruit service at Puerto Barrios.

PUERTO BARRIOS, GUATEMALA, *August 16, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report leaving Puerto Cortez, Republic of Honduras, Wednesday, August 15, on the steamship *S. Oteri*, bound for New Orleans and the intervening Central American fruit ports of Puerto Barrios and Livingston in Guatemala. I arrived at Puerto Barrios, which is 60 miles from Puerto Cortez, Thursday morning, the 16th instant, and then had an interview with Medical Inspector J. B. Bonney, representing the Louisiana State board of health, who assured me as to the freedom of the port and vicinity, at this date, from the presence of contagious or infectious diseases.

Fruit ships destined for New Orleans make a landing at this port to discharge freight and mail and accept passengers for New Orleans and intermediate coast points in British Honduras, if they are provided with "identification cards" from the medical officer representing the Louisiana State board of health and who is stationed at this port, and if they have complied with the quarantine regulations of said board.

The Mobile steamers only receive fruit alongside of the wharf, but do not accept passengers, inasmuch as no medical officer of the Marine-Hospital Service is stationed here. The Guatemalan Northern Railway Company had until lately a hospital located in this port, but which has been removed to Sacape, a small town on the line, 60 miles in the interior.

At the present time this railway is not in operation, owing to extensive washouts of track, and, as a consequence, there is little communication with the interior and practically none with the Pacific coast of Guatemala.

Respectfully,

WM. H. CARSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Inspection and recommendations concerning the ports of Hilo, Hawaii, Kihei, and Kahului.

HONOLULU, H. I., *July 25, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that it has been necessary for me to visit the ports of Hilo, Kihei, and Kahului in order to see the local conditions in each place, select men to nominate as quarantine officers and make recommendations relative to the necessary quarantine outfit at each place.

At Hilo, on the island of Maui, and distant from Honolulu 229 miles, I found no establishment for quarantine purposes. Provision had been made under the old Hawaiian board of health for the boarding and inspection of vessels arriving there, but there was no quarantine station or place where persons sick with contagious disease could be treated or people exposed to such held in detention on shore.

There is no available place for a quarantine station in the harbor of Hilo with the exception of a small island called Cocoanut Island, located in the southeastern part of the harbor. It is rather close to the wharf and shipping at anchor in the harbor, has an area of about 3 acres, and is the only available place for sea bathing, in the vicinity of Hilo, on account of its sandy beach. It has been used for such a purpose for years, and the people of Hilo have strong objections against its use for quarantine purposes.

There is a Government reservation of 18 acres on the southeastern side of the harbor opposite Cocoanut Island which has the same objections to it on the island above-named, viz, proximity to the shipping and town.

There is no place available for a quarantine anchorage near Cocoanut Island or the reservation on the shore without encroaching on the regular anchorage of vessels in port.

Cocoanut Island is Government property, and the Hawaiian government contemplated the use of this island for a quarantine station, and had a small disinfecting or fumigating shed and detention house erected on it during the existence of cholera in Honolulu in 1894. Reeds Bay, about 2 miles below Hilo harbor, could also be obtained for quarantine purposes as it is Government land under long lease to the Waiakea Sugar Company. It is remote from the shipping and town, but is outside of the reef and much exposed in rough weather and during the prevalence of the ordinary trade winds. The anchorage is considered fair in good weather.

Seven miles north of Hilo, on the east coast of Hawaii, is a beautiful cove of probably 50 acres in area and named Hali. It is owned by the Onomea Sugar Plantation Company, and has an abundance of good water and a good anchorage adjoining it. It is well isolated and could be made an ideal station by the expenditure of a reasonable sum of money.

The land in the cove would have to be purchased from the Onomea Sugar Company, and the other places named have the advantage of being Government reservations. A board should be appointed at an early date to choose a site for a quarantine station at or near Hilo, and the erection of the necessary buildings and plants should be inaugurated as soon after the location is decided upon as practicable. In the meantime temporary arrangements will have to be adopted for the treatment of vessels arriving at Hilo with contagious disease on board, as the distance from Honolulu, 229 miles, is rather far to send a vessel in such a condition. Dr. John G. Grace has been nominated as quarantine officer at Hilo and given instructions relative to the boarding and inspection of vessels arriving at that port. In the absence of a steam launch, a whaleboat is needed for boarding purposes, and instead of a crew of 2 men, as contemplated in the estimates recently forwarded from the Bureau, 5 should be allowed, as the sea is often very rough in Hawaiian waters and in boarding outside of the harbor 2 men can not manage a whaleboat properly. At present the boarding officer, as in Honolulu, goes out in the pilot boat and pays a fee for each trip.

The development of a large sugar plantation at Kihei, on the southwestern side of the island of Maui, has necessitated the call of a number of vessels at that port, and some provision for their inspection was necessary. Kihei is distant from Honolulu 91 miles.

Dr. R. H. Dinegar has been nominated quarantine officer at Kihei, and he should be provided with a whaleboat and crew for boarding purposes. Kihei should be considered as an inspection station for the present, and vessels arriving there with contagious or infectious disease

on board should be remanded to Honolulu, as there are no facilities for the treatment of vessels in quarantine at the former place.

Kahului, situated on the northeast side of the island of Maui, is a port of entry and has a deputy collector of customs. A number of vessels enter here bringing cargoes of coal and general merchandise for use on the sugar plantations, and taking return cargoes of sugar to the coast.

Kahului is distant 87 miles from Honolulu, and, like Kihei, has no facilities for the treatment of vessels in quarantine. It should therefore be considered for the present an inspection station, and vessels requiring treatment in quarantine remanded to Honolulu.

Dr. John Weddick has been nominated as quarantine officer at Kahului, and he should be furnished with a whaleboat and crew for boarding purposes.

Respectfully,

D. A. CARMICHAEL,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HONDURAS.

Report from La Ceiba—Fruit port.

LA CEIBA, HONDURAS, *August 13, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended August 11, 1900:

Three vessels left this port for the United States. August 5, steamship *Alliance*, for New Orleans. August 11, steamship *Alabama*, for New Orleans; steamship *Iberia*, for New Orleans.

On August 9, Acting Asst. Surg. W. H. Carson arrived here from Puerto Cortez. After he finished his inspection here I went with him to the island of Utila, from which point he returned to Puerto Cortez.

The general health of this port and locality continues good, with the exception of malarial fever, which is always more prevalent at this season. Three deaths occurred during the week—1 male, from dysentery, 1 male, result of stab wound, and 1 female, cause of death unknown.

Respectfully,

SPENCER FRANKLIN,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Fruit service at La Ceiba.

LA CEIBA, HONDURAS, *August 9, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I embarked on the steamship *Stillwater*, from New Orleans, August 2, 1900, for La Ceiba, via Puerto Cortez, Republic of Honduras, arriving at Puerto Cortez August 7. Through the courtesy of Mr. J. C. Walshe, manager of the Honduras division of the United Fruit Company, at Puerto Cortez, the steamship *Usk* conveyed me to La Ceiba, a fruit port 68 miles further south. I there met Acting Asst. Surg. Spencer Franklin, of the Service, who emphasized the statement that there was not any suspicion as to contagious or infectious diseases, and that the port in question was exceedingly healthy, and had been so for some time past, and that it was now nine years since the last appearance of yellow fever. It may be here